

MTC Regional Pedestrian Committee
Meeting Notes from 08/16/07
By: Rochelle Wheeler

1. Introductions:

- Jason Patton, City of Oakland
- Wendy Alfsen, CA Walks
- Rochelle Wheeler, ACTIA
- John Brazil, City of San José
- Bob Planthold
- Beth Thomas, Caltrans
- Brad Beck, CCCTA
- Yun Na Rhee, City of Walnut Creek
- Roger Bazeley, SF PTA
- Heath Maddox, City of Berkeley
- Ana Validzic, City of San Francisco Dept of Public Health
- Nancy Baer, Contra Costa County Public Health
- Ron Bishop
- Fabian Favila, City of Santa Rosa
- Robert Raburn, EBBC
- Linda Young, WCTAC/511 C
- Dorene Giacapini, MTC Commissioner
- Sean Co, MTC

2. Summary of June Meeting

- No comments were made on the meeting notes.

3. Regional Pedestrian Planning Needs – Summary of Previous Meeting

- Jason Patton reviewed the work that was done since the previous (June 21st) meeting on developing the initial piece of the Regional Pedestrian Planning Assessment document. After the discussion at that meeting, a draft document (distributed in the meeting packet) was written by Jason, Rochelle and Beth on the regional significance of pedestrian planning.
- Several specific comments and suggestions on this memo were made. Any additional comments should be sent to Jason Patton. They will be incorporated in Spring 2008, when the entire document is finalized.
- Bob Planthold wondered how this document would relate to the Regional Transportation Plan update now underway, and suggested that it could be adopted into the RTP or Resolution 3434.

4. Regional Pedestrian Planning Needs – Existing Conditions

- Ana Validzic and John Brazil led the group in a discussion of the “Existing Conditions” for regional pedestrian planning. Ana and John took extensive notes on the discussion and will present a draft memo summarizing the issue to the group at the next meeting in October. Following is a brief summary of the discussion.

- Ana and John handed out an outline listing the categories of data, facilities and programs, with specific areas to explore below each. The group grappled with what level of review of the existing conditions was needed for the document being developed. After much discussion, the group settled on providing a review and summary of the existing information that is available and could be included in a Regional Pedestrian Plan, and the gaps in information or data that, if filled, would lead to a better understanding of walking in our region. It was agreed that existing conditions should refer to more than just infrastructure, and that the memo should include a description of the why information about existing conditions is useful.

5. SHSIP Berkeley Safety Summit Summary

- Wendy Alfsen described the work of the group addressing Challenge Area 8 (“Making Walking and Street Crossing Safer”) of the Strategic Highway Safety Implementation Plan at their July 2007 day long meeting in Berkeley.
- The group has identified 10 overall strategies, each with a variety of prioritized actions that will improve pedestrian safety and increase walking. They are looking for feedback by August 24th. Their next meeting will be August 24th. The final strategies for all challenge areas will be completed by October 30th.
- The next version of the pedestrian strategy list will be submitted to Sean Co for review at the next RPC meeting in October.

6. Routine Accommodations Checklist Demo

- Sean Co is developing the online version of the Routine Accommodation checklist form, which, once finished, project sponsors will be required to complete and will be available for review by BPACs.
- Sean presented a live view of the form, which is in the beta stage, and took some feedback on it.
- Once the beta version is complete, Sean will ask several volunteers to fill out the form to make sure it is working correctly and efficiently. Edits will be made, and then a letter will be mailed to all CMAs stating that all future project submittals must complete the online Routine Accommodation checklist.
- The first funding program to be subject to the checklist requirement will be the Local Road Rehab Shortfall, with a call for projects in January or February.

7. Info-sharing

- Walk/Bike California conference is 9/11-9/14.
- MTC/ABAG Fall Forum is 10/26.
- Safe Routes to School Call for Projects – expected any day. Applications will be due in November.
 - Ana stated that the grant requirements for programmatic funds were not at all clear during the application process for the federal SRTS program, and this has caused much difficulty and delay. She requested that this be the topic of a future RPC agenda.
- Several trainings will take place before the Walk/Bike CA conference.
- John Brazil will attend Walk 21 in Toronto.

- Heath Maddox reported that the CEQA lawsuit lodged against the City for the road diet on Marin Avenue was overturned.

Next Meeting: October 18, 2007